

**US Environmental Protection Agency
Region II
EXPEDITED REMOVAL ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

SITE NAME	Nelson Galvanizing		
Date of Report	6/30/99	Removal Eligible (yes/no)	YES
SITE ID No.		CERCLIS No.	
		RCRIS No.	

Location: {street, block, lot, city, county, state, zip code, Longitude, Latitude}	11-02 Broadway, Long Island City, Queens, NY		
Mailing Address	same as above		
Abandoned (date)	N/A		
EPA Investigators (Name & Phone #)	Paul Kahn, Jeff Bechtel	Date of Investigation	6/30/99
State Investigators (Name & Phone #)	N/A	Date of State Response	N/A
State Case No.	N/A	NRC Case No.	
ERNS Case No.			
State Referral Date:	N/A		
Contact for Access to Property (facility, state, local) (phone #)	John Sweeney @ above street address 718-728-0880		
Directions to site (narrative) (Enclose copy of map at end of report)	Outerbridge Crossing to Verrazano Narrows Bridge to Gowanus Expressway to Brooklyn/Queens Expressway. Take McGuinnis Blvd. exit, go under BQE, proceed north about 2 miles over Pulaski Skyway. Make 3 rd left, go one block, turn right onto Broadway. Site is on right about 3 miles.		
Access Agreement (Verbal, Written, None, Any problems gaining access? If so, was an attorney assigned for the site? EPA Attorney's name & phone number)	Verbal access granted by John Sweeney		

340462



A. Site History (Short Narrative describing the origination of the site)

Nelson Galvanizing was medium sized galvanizing company that had a long history of air pollution problems from a decrepit boiler that smoked constantly, and from fugitive emissions from hot dip galvanizing tanks..

After RPB documented releases and threats of releases of hazardous substances from the Site, it was a PRP-lead removal action conducted in 1990-91 under an EPA ACO.

Removal action completed in 1991; subsequently EPA RCRA negotiated a consent order with owner/operator John Sweeney to maintain a facility in full compliance with all applicable RCRA rules and regulations.

Over the intervening years until 1998, Mr. Sweeney allowed his facility to return to its former condition, but to a lesser degree. Repeated attempts on the part of the RCRA program to gain compliance and information from Mr. Sweeney resulted in nothing. In June 1999 the Director of DECA referred this site to the Director ERRD, for a removal action. As a result of that referral OSCs from RPB visited the site on 6/30/99 to conduct an assessment of site conditions and determine whether the site was eligible for a removal action. OSCs determined that given the volumes and conditions of storage of CERCLA hazardous substances and other pollutants and contaminants, that this site is eligible for a Superfund removal action. Mr. Sweeney stated that he has insufficient funds to conduct the removal action.

B. Site Characteristics

1. Physical Location

<i>Type of Site (Industrial, Commercial, residential etc.)</i>	Industrial
<i>Current Operations</i>	company is defunct, but property is used as parking lot
<i>Past Operations</i>	hot dip zinc galvanizing
<i>Nature of Neighborhood (industrial, commercial, rural , suburban. Describe the pedestrian and vehicular traffic, is it a highway, is the area deserted etc.)</i>	Neighborhood is very mixed, with commercial, residential, and industrial entities in close proximity to each other. Site is located at a major local intersection, and within 100 yards of a large City park that is frequently occupied.

2. Physical Characteristics

Size of Property	approx. 1 1/4 acre	Number of Buildings	one
Size of Bldgs, number of floors, basement	approx. 1 1/4 acre (building occupies all of the property with the exception of the sidewalks on 3 sides)		
Building Drains (describe any evidence of potential discharge from the building and direction of flow, e.g sanitary sewer, are drain outfalls directed to a stream or other sensitive area, etc.)	no drains are visible, but there is a dirt floor in half the building, and there is evidence of sections of the floor having caved into either a sub-basement or a small sink-hole. Ground water audibly flows approx. 10 feet below ground level of Site.		
Building Construction (Roof: Wood, metal Walls: Masonry, wood Floor: Concrete, wood)	building is made of interior steel "T" beam, walls are block to a height of approx. 12 feet, and either sheet metal or corrugated fiberglass for the remaining 40 feet to the roof. Roof is wooden beams and cross members with tar paper and shingles. Floor is concrete in one half and dirt in the other half.		
Fire Protection systems (indicate if operational)	none evident		
System automatic Yes/No	N/A		
Other Physical Hazards (stability of the terrain, stability of stacked material)	debris and piles of contaminated dirt, abandoned vehicles, and tons of scrap metal present S, T, and F hazards.		
Space availability for vehicles trailers, staging of drums, equipment, etc.	there is sufficient space for staging equipment, but debris and vehicles will have to be removed first.		

3. Site Conditions

Structural Integrity of Building/Structures (e.g. holes in the roof, past fires, evidence of past damage, water damage, obstacles to site entry)	the roof and walls appear to be intact and sound. There has been some damage to individual roof sections resulting in some sections having fallen to the ground. There are sink-hole type features which may mean that the ground has the potential to collapse under sufficient weight.
Evidence of Public Entry (graffiti, vagrants, dumping etc.)	none, business is defunct, but site is being used by owner as a parking garage for a local taxi company
Housekeeping (Evidence of stains on ground, discolored water, pools of liquid on the ground, debris)	Housekeeping is non-existent.
Occupancy (hours occupied)	Mon - Fri, 8AM to 4PM
Utilities Power/gas/water (On/off) Is there a fire hydrant nearby?	full utilities, including washroom, toilets, and telephone There is an upstairs office area that is unoccupied but can be made functional for less than trailer rental cost.
Lighting (need of portable lights in order to work in the affected area?)	Lighting in plant area is nonexistent. Office area has full lighting
Natural Hazards (e.g. poison ivy, poisonous snakes, stray dogs)	none noted
Other hazardous substance indicators (e.g. Dead fish, animals, vegetation; fissures or cracks in solid surfaces to expose deep waste layers, cleared land areas, pits, possible landfilled areas, pools of liquids, distinct odors, anything unusual)	only as noted above

4. Security

<i>Fencing (complete, partial, type, number of gates)</i>	Site is fully enclosed, but integrity of enclosure is questionable. There are no security guards present.
<i>Condition of fences (holes in fence)</i>	N/A
<i>Other means of site access (open door, windows etc)</i>	sheet metal walls easily bent backwards to provide access.
<i>Security Guard/Service (Type, shift hours)</i>	N/A

5. Migration Pathways and Potential Receptors

<i>Sewers (Storm or sanitary and distance from site)</i>	sewers are within 10 feet of the Site
<i>Waterway, Confluences, Water intakes, drinking water wells (Distance from site)</i>	The East River is within 200 yards of the Site.
<i>Sensitive ecosystems (wetlands, sanctuaries etc. and distance from site)</i>	N/A
<i>Human Exposure (playground, nursing homes, schools etc., Distance from site)</i>	residences, businesses, schools and recreations areas are all within 1/4 of a mile or less from the Site.
<i>Air Pathways (Dust or spray in the air, asbestos, gas generation or effervescence, distinct odors, etc.)</i>	none noted

6. Instrumentation and Sampling

<i>Significant instrument readings during investigations (List instrument, levels and background)</i>	none taken
<i>Number of samples and type of analysis (e.g. hazcat or lab)</i>	see previous CERCLA and RCRA sampling results

7. Number & Types of Containers

Container	Number and types of Containers (e.g. plastic, wooden, concrete, metal)	Condition of containers (rusting leaking, bulging corroded etc.)
55-gal drums	approx. 100	poor to good
5 - 30 gal containers	approx. 30	poor to good
<5 gal containers	none noted	
Below ground storage tanks (number and sizes; indicate phase levels, etc.)	none	
Above ground storage tanks (number and sizes; indicate phase levels, etc.)	1-- H ₂ SO ₄ tank, no liquid, but approx 40 cu yds of sludge; 1-- NaOH, approx. 900 gals liquid and approx. 1800 gals of sludge; 1--tank approx. 800 gals of water or possibly zinc ammonium chloride	poor, but no leaking
Secondary containment (Condition, size and type of construction)	none	
Other (cylinders, explosives, etc.)	approx. 25 derelict automobiles/trucks, each containing gasoline, oil, and antifreeze (ethylene glycol)	
Empty containers (number, type and sizes)	approx. 200 poly and steel 55-gal drums	all of the above

8. Total Estimated Quantities

CERCLA Hazardous substance	30 gals phosphoric acid; 30,000 lbs. elemental zinc; 900 gals sodium hydroxide; tons of zinc contaminated soil and debris; ethylene glycol
OIL	none noted
RCRA	acid and caustic sludges, waste acids, waste caustic, low pH crystalline sludges, 4 gals. Mercurochrome predating 1962,

9. Material Identification

Classification	Substance	Method of Identification (Labels, hazcat, analysis etc)
CERCLA (identify substances, e.g. benzene, PCB, etc.)	sodium hydroxide, zinc, phosphoric acid, ethylene glycol	generator knowledge
Oil (Type)	crank case oil	---
RCRA hazardous waste	all of the above	

10. Evidence of Discharge

Evidence of actual discharge (leaking containers, observation of runoffs, etc.)	stains on soil inside and outside of Site, visible signs of solids contamination
Potential discharge (Haphazard storage, incompatibility, etc.)	fire, poor storage practices
Imminent discharge (e.g. damaged drums located at the edge of waterway, etc.)	entire facility is on verge of imminent discharge

11. Pending Actions

<i>Pending Actions to complete investigations (e.g. sampling, hazcat, lab analysis)</i>	Region II RCRA office has an existing ACO, and reams of haz-cat and analytical data
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C. Site Legal Status

1. Ownership

<i>Status of Site Ownership</i>	John Sweeney
<i>Status of Site Operations</i>	inoperative

2. Site Cleanup

<i>Previous Actions</i>	PRP-lead removal action with EPA oversight pursuant to ACO
<i>Present Actions</i>	

3. Enforcement Actions:

<i>Records (records at the site or elsewhere)</i>	See EPA Record Center and RCRA Program office files
<i>Local</i>	issued administrative summons
<i>State</i>	N/A
<i>EPA</i>	CERCLA ACO and RCRA Consent Order
<i>Other</i>	N/A

4. Suspected PRPs

Name	Address	Phone
John Sweeney	see above	

Name	Address	Phone

E. Other Information

1. List of Contacts/ Other Notifications

Name	Affiliation	Address	Phone

2. Additional Information

<p>none</p>

3. Site Sketch, Maps, Photographs (append)